tools that we use now to make sure that the banks' balance-sheets reflect the true position of the banks. Of the three, the most important reason for the overall loss is the provisioning for non-performing assets.

The next one is, because the Reserve Bank has revised its guidelines and made them tighter, mark to market was made tighter, more depreciation has to be provided for investment.

The third one is that the IBA settled with the banks the long-pending claim of wage arrears. That is one of the reasons why the losses are high. The wage arrears have been paid. These are the three main reasons for the loss.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The second supplementary.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Bad debts result from corrupt transactions of original lending. Those have now been made provision for, and that accounts for your losses. So, why don't you use a simple language and say that this is the price of corruption in the past years? Correct?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I do not agree with it.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: My friend will give me the figures. He did not tell me the most efficient cause of the loss.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I said "provisioning."

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: How much? If you do not have the figure, we will wait for another day.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The provisioning amount differs from bank to bank. If the hon. Member wants to know the provisioning amount of each bank, I am willing to provide those figures to him, but it will not be possible for me to give provisioning figures for each of the banks. I can give the operating profit and the net profit for each bank as well as those for all the banks and the net position for all the public sector banks. The operating profit was Rs. 7,568.87 crores. The net profit that is loss was 371 crores of rupees. This is for the year 1995-96.

The reasons are known. The main losses were in the Indian Bank which accounted for Rs. 1,336 crores.

All the other banks, if you look, did not make even a net profit. There is one bank where the provisioning was approximately Rs. 900 odd crores in 1995-96 which caused the balance sheet of the Indian Bank for 1995-96 to return a net loss of Rs. 1,336 crores.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Just give me some idea of earlier years. How far do you want to go?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I don't understand what he is asking. I hve given the figures for the last year i.e. 1995-96. I don't understand what else he wants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Promotion of Housing Sector by Public Sector Banks in Gujarat

*322. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector banks are promoting housing sector in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any limit has been prescribed for advances to housing in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of loans provided for housing in the State during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(f) whether Government propose to increase the loan limit in the State to promote housing activities; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (g)

Direct	*Finance*
For construction *of a house*	For repairs to *damaged houses*
Upto Rs. 2.00 Lkh	Upto Rs. 25000

These limits have been raised w.e.f. 21.02.1997 to Rs. 3 lakhs for construction of a house by an individual and Rs. 50,000 for repairs to damaged houses.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) upto 1995-96 had advised the commercial banks to extend housing finance to the extent of 1.5% of their incremental deposits of the previous year. For the year 1996-97, commercial banks have been advised to extend housing finance at 1.5% of their incremental deposits as on the last reporting Friday of March, 1996 over the corresponding figures as on the last reporting Friday of March, 1995 or the amount of housing finance allocations fixed for the year 1995-96, whichever is higher.

National Housing Bank (NHB) has reported that housing loans disbursed by public sector banks in Gujarat in the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 were Rs. 12.17 crores, Rs. 26.69 crores and Rs. 19.38 crores (provisional) respectively. Data regarding district-wise details of loans disbursed by banks is not generated by RBI/NHB reporting system.

Additional Flight to Singapore

*323. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether more flights are to be operated to Singapore form the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether flights to Singapore will be introduced from Hyderabad in view of public demand?

As part of priority sector lending, public sector banks extend housing finance as under:

Indirect	*Finance*
For construction *of a house*	For repairs to *Damaged houses*
Upto Rs. 2.00 Lkh	Upto Rs. 25000

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Indian airlines is planning to introduce a thrice weekly flight each from Bangalore and Calcutta to Singapore and a once weekly flight from Madras to Singapore in the summer schedule, 1977.

(c) Air India and Indian airlines have no plans at present to introduce a service from Hyderabad to Singapore.

Requirement for the registration of private airlines

*325. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private airlines registered with the DGCA as on date;

(b) what are the formalities for their registration;

(c) whether DGCA is geared for this kind of work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) There are seven private scheduled airlines:—

1. Archana Airways
2. East West Airlines
3. Jet Airways
4. Modiluft
5. NEPC Airlines
6. Sahara India Airlines
7. Skyline NEPC (formerly Damania Airways)